VZCZCXRO1507
RR RUEHNZ
DE RUEHWL #0271 2412321
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
R 282321Z AUG 08 ZDK
FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5384
INFO RUEHNZ/AMCONSUL AUCKLAND 1721
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 5239
RUEHDN/AMCONSUL SYDNEY 0704
RUEHMV/AMEMBASSY MONROVIA 0006

UNCLAS WELLINGTON 000271

SIPDIS SENSITIVE

STATE FOR STATE FOR EAP/ANP, AF/W (DAVIS), State pass to USAID Cheryl Kim

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: <u>EAID</u> <u>LI PREL</u> <u>NZ</u>

SUBJECT: DEVELOPMENT MINISTERS MEETING, MONROVIA: GNZ

NON-ATTENDENCE.

REF: STATE 89825

11. (SBU) Summary. The Government of New Zealand has confirmed that it cannot send a representative to the Development Ministers Meeting to be held in Monrovia, Liberia September 5-6. End Summary.

12. (SBU) In response to Reftel request regarding host nation participation in the Development Ministers Meeting to be held in Monrovia, Liberia September 5-6, Post reached out to the New Zealand Agency for International Development (NZAID) and have been informed that it did receive the August 12 invitation from Liberian President Sirleaf to attend the meeting. However, Peter Adams, Executive Director NZAID, cannot attend the meeting nor can any other GNZ official. New Zealand has sparse diplomatic coverage on the African continent – it has missions in Cairo and Pretoria only. Therefore, it is constrained by a shortfall in available personnel at this time.

McCormick